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EXAMINER

TRUONG, CAM Y T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2172

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/925,126

Applicant(s)

LUH, YIH-PING

Examiner

Cam Y T Truong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 February 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant has amended claims 3-6 and withdrawn claims 1, 2 and 7 in the amendment filed on 2/9/04. Claims 3-6 are pending in this Office Action.

Applicant's arguments filed 2/9/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argued that Ciarlante does not teach the claimed limitation "a tool-added information box being obtained by packing the original information box with the specific functions tools of the tools server and sent to the customer for the customer to access and modifying the data contained in the tool-added information box". However, Ciarlante teaches as shown in fig. 12, an application kit development screen in the DIH hosting system sent to a user as a customer. The DIH system uses the AppKit structure to register and publish an application. This application contains a list of functional tools such as Edit Vendor Record, Edit Application Record and Add application file and record database. Thus, when a user receives it, the user can select any tool for edit or create any record. During a use of the application instance, the host system tracks use of the application for billing and accounting purpose. The DIH host system uses three tools for tracking users. The first is registration tables in the DIH relational database, which store account IDs that represent each user in each instance and username/e-mail pairs that uniquely identify each user. A second is a cascaded Public Address Book, which stores user records for each person with instances on each hosting server. A third is the Public Address Book, which stores groups for each instance. An instance is sent to users to access data such as account or user records

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(col. 10, lines 5-17). The above information shows that the system sent a packing of information with tools of the server to a user for allowing access. Thus, a user can select any tools such Edit Vendor record to edit a record or Add an application to add application file (col. 13, lines 14-55; col. 10, lines 5-10).

Applicant argued that Ciarlante does not teach the claimed limitation "a web server for storing the tool-added information boxes and allowing the customers to selectively access and modifying one or more of said tool-added information boxes according to respective needs of the customers". However, Ciarlante teaches that a web server stores web pages containing offerings. Users of client 8 make selections of groupware applications through the offerings in the storefront 14. Each groupware application has an instance. Thus, the instance is stored in a web server too. The Customer Service console is designed for Web access by service provider customer service or administrative staff, allowing them to view instance information, view and change login information, move instances, and suspend and restore users and instances (col. 3, lines 59-62, col. 4, line 55; col. 7, lines 1-10).

For the above reason, examiner believed that rejection of the last office action was proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ciarlante et al (or hereinafter "Ciarlante") (USP 6594819).

As to claim 3, Ciarlante teaches the claimed limitations:

"an information server controlled by the information provider" as a technical profile, which is used by the host to determine which hosting servers, may be used.

This information shows the host controls the hosting servers. The host is represented as the information provider (col. 4, lines 19-21);

"an original information box selectively extracted from the information server" as during use of the application instance, the host system tracks use of the application for billing and accounting purpose. The DIH host system uses tools for tracking users. The first is registration tables in the DIH relational database, which store account Ids that represent each user in each instance and username/e-mail pairs that uniquely identify each user. A second is a cascaded Public Address Book, which stores user records for each person with instances on each hosting server. The above information shows that when tracking a user, the host has to select a cascaded Public Address Book from a particular server and then retrieve the particular server cascaded Public Address Book for tracking users (col. 10, lines 1-13);

“a tool server installed with a plurality of tools having accessing and modifying functions relating to the original information box by an application service provider” as for each instance user, status push provides this information: the user’s name, the date this user record was created. Removed- that the user has been removed from this instance. The application instance then responds to the updated information received via the status push mechanism in accordance with predefined logic. Referring to fig. 0, when an application instance is terminated, either through an action by the user hosting the application or through an action by the host system to so terminate it, a terminate instance is logged and the status of the instance is changed in RBMS. The host system deletes the names of the user and guests from the public address book on the hosting server. The about information indicates the server installed two modifying functions such as Removed and creating user record (col. 12, lines 1-30). The hosting system, such as an Internet Service Provider or ISP, contains a number of components distributed over multiple servers. The host system contains a database storing the application kits. These applications are hosted in one of any number of dedicated host servers 16 contained in the hosting system 10. This information shows that a server is installed with a plurality of the application kits by ISP. A plurality of the application kits can be represented as a plurality of tools (col. 3, lines 53-64) “and providing specific functional tools when instructed by the application service provider” as when a service provider is ready to offer an application to customers, he or she creates an application syndicate in the warehouse. A syndicate is an offer of an application, including rental terms and pricing. Each syndicate has a different set of materials, allowing the service

provider to offer different pricing structures to different customers. Once a syndicate has been created, the service provider publishes it to a storefront to make it available to customers. This information shows that the system provides syndicates of applications to customers when instructed by the service provider. Syndicates of an application can be represented as tools (col. 6, lines 60-67);

"modify the data contained in the tool-added information box" as the host system deletes the names of the user and guests from the public address book on the hosting server. The about information indicates the system modify the names of user as data in the public address book as the tool-added information box (col. 12, lines 1-30).

Ciarlante does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "and a tool-added information box being obtained by packing the original information box with the specific functional tools of the tool server and then being sent to the customer for the customer to access". However, Ciarlante teaches as shown in fig. 12, an application kit development screen in the DIH hosting system. The DIH system uses the AppKit structure to register and publish an application. This application contains a list of functional tools such as Edit Vendor Record, Edit Application Record and Add application file. A user can select any tool for edit or create any record. During use of the application instance, the host system tracks use of the application for billing and accounting purpose. The DIH host system uses three tools for tracking users. The first is registration tables in the DIH relational database, which store account Ids that represent each user in each instance and username/e-mail pairs that uniquely identify each user. A second is a cascaded Public Address Book, which stores user records for

each person with instances on each hosting server. A third is the Public Address Book, which stores groups for each instance. An instance is sent to users to access data such as account or user records (col. 10, lines 5-17). The above information shows that the system sent a packing of information with tools of the server to a user for allowing access. Thus, a user can select any tools such Edit Vendor record to edit a record or Add an application to add application file (col. 13, lines 14-55; col. 10, lines 5-10).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Ciarlante's teaching of displaying a list of functional tools such as Edit Vendor Record, Edit Application Record and Add Application file to allow a user to select for accessing record in a database and the host system tracks use of the application for billing and accounting purpose. The DIH host system uses three tools for tracking users. The first is registration tables in the DIH relational database, which store account Ids that represent each user in each instance and username/e-mail pairs that uniquely identify each user. A second is a cascaded Public Address Book, which stores user records for each person with instances on each hosting server. A third is the Public Address Book, which stores groups for each instance. An instance is sent to users to access data such as account or user records in order to allow any user can access any instance for modifying or creating any record in a database from different sites via Internet system.

As to claim 4, Ciarlante teaches the claimed limitation "a transacted information box which is obtained from the tool-added information box accessed and modified by

the customer and sent from the customer back to the information server for updating the information server" as updating data in DIHUsers databases on the Hosting servers (fig. 12, col. 13, lines 15-55; col. 6, lines 20-25).

As to claim 5, Ciarlante teaches the claimed limitations:

"an information server which is controlled by the information provider" as the host use a technical profile to determine which hosting servers may be used. This information indicates that the host controls the hosting servers. The host is represented as the information provider (col. 4, lines 19-20);

"one or more original information boxes selectively extracted from the information server by the information provider, each of said original information boxes containing specific information according to predetermination of the information provider" as during use of the application instance, the host system tracks use of the application for billing and accounting purpose. The DIH host system uses tools for tracking users. The first is registration tables in the DIH relational database, which store account Ids that represent each user in each instance and username/e-mail pairs that uniquely identify each user. A second is a cascaded Public Address Book, which stores user records for each person with instances on each hosting server. The above information shows that when tracking a user, the host has to select a cascaded Public Address Book from a particular server and then retrieve the particular server cascaded Public Address Book for tracking users (col. 10, lines 1-13);

“a tool server providing tools for accessing and modifying information stored in the original information boxes” as the Registry server, which writes to the registration tables in the Domino Instant! Host relational database and also calls the Directory server to update the data in the DIHUsers databases on the Hosting servers. Each DIHUsers database is a cascaded Public Address Book that contains personal documents for all users. The directory server makes changes to the Public Address Books such as adding person documents or changing group entries. This information shows that directory server has provided tools for updating data in a cascaded Public Address Book. A cascaded Public Address Book is represented as the original information box (col. 6, lines 19-22; col. 5, lines 24-32);

“a web server for storing said tool-added information boxes” a web server stores web pages containing offerings. Users of client 8 make selections of groupware applications through the offerings in the storefront 14. Each groupware application has an instance. Thus, the instance is stored in a web server too (col. 3, lines 59-62, col. 4, line 55) and “allowing the customers to selectively access and modify one or more of said tool-added information boxes according to respective needs of the customers” (fig. 12, col. 13, lines 14-55; col. 5, lines 1-10).

Ciarlante does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation “one or more tool-added information boxes obtained from said original information boxes by packing specific tools therein via the tool server”. However, Ciarlante teaches that during use of the application instance, the host system tracks use of the application for billing and accounting purpose. The DIH host system uses three tools for tracking users. The first

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is registration tables in the DIH relational database, which store account Ids that represent each user in each instance and username/e-mail pairs that uniquely identify each user. A second is a cascaded Public Address Book, which stores user records for each person with instances on each hosting server. A third is the Public Address Book, which stores groups for each instance. The above information shows that the application instance is a result from contains a cascaded Public Address Book by packing DIH relational database and Public Address Book via the DIH host system. In this case, the second tool, a cascaded Public Address Book, can be an original information box. Packing DIH relational database and Public Address Book are represented as tools. The DIH host system is represented as a tool server (col. 10, lines 5-17).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Ciarlante's teaching the host system tracks use of the application for billing and accounting purpose. The DIH host system uses three tools for tracking users. The first is registration tables in the DIH relational database, which store account Ids that represent each user in each instance and username/e-mail pairs that uniquely identify each user. A second is a cascaded Public Address Book, which stores user records for each person with instances on each hosting server. A third is the Public Address Book, which stores groups for each instance in order to allow any user can access any instance for modifying or maintaining any information in a database from different sites via Internet system easily and efficiently.

As to claim 6, Ciarlante teaches the claimed limitations:

“an information server which is controlled by an information provider” as a technical profile which is used by the host to determine which hosting servers may be used. This information shows the host controls the hosting servers. The host is represented as the information provider (col. 4, lines 19-21);

“one or more original information boxes selectively extracted from the information server by the original information provider, each of said original information boxes containing specific information according to predetermination of the information provider” as during use of the application instance, the host system tracks use of the application for billing and accounting purpose. The DIH host system uses tools for tracking users. The first is registration tables in the DIH relational database, which store account ids that represent each user in each instance and username/e-mail pairs that uniquely identify each user. A second is a cascaded Public Address Book, which stores user records for each person with instances on each hosting server. The above information shows that when tracking a user, the host has to select a cascaded Public Address Book from a particular server and then retrieve the particular server cascaded Public Address Book for tracking users (col. 10, lines 1-13);

“a tool server providing tools for accessing, and modifying information stored in said original information boxes” as the Registry server, which writes to the registration tables in the Domino Instant! Host relational database and also calls the Directory server to update the data in the DIHUsers databases on the Hosting servers. Each DIHUsers database is a cascaded Public Address Book that contains personal

documents for all users. The directory server makes changes to the Public Address Books such as adding person documents or changing group entries. This information shows that directory server has provided tools for updating data in a cascaded Public Address Book. A cascaded Public Address Book is represented as the original information box (col. 6, lines 19-22; col. 5, lines 24-32);

“a web server for storing said tool-added information boxes” as a web server stores web pages containing offerings. Users of client 8 make selections of groupware applications through the offerings in the storefront 14. Each groupware application has an instance. Thus, the instance is stored in a web server too (col. 3, lines 59-62, col. 4, line 55),” the web server being linked to the customers through a portal which is owned by the internet content provider so that the customers can access said tool-added information boxes stored in the web server by visiting the portal” as a web server stores web page which contains offerings. These offerings are published in the storefront 14. Users of client 8 make selections of groupware applications through offerings in the storefront, and the applications are hosted in one of any number of dedicated host server 16 contained in the hosting system 10. Then, the users choose URL to identify application instance for accessing an instance. The above information shows that the web server is linked to the storefront, which is owned by the Internet Service Provider so that users can access a stored instance in a server by visiting the storefront. The storefront is presented as the portal (figs. 8-9, col. 3, lines 53-64).

Ciarlante does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation “one or more tool-added information boxes obtained from said original information boxes by packing specific

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tools therein via the tool server". However, Ciarlante teaches that during use of the application instance, the host system tracks use of the application for billing and accounting purpose. The DIH host system uses three tools for tracking users. The first is registration tables in the DIH relational database, which store account Ids that represent each user in each instance and username/e-mail pairs that uniquely identify each user. A second is a cascaded Public Address Book, which stores user records for each person with instances on each hosting server. A third is the Public Address Book, which stores groups for each instance. The above information shows that the application instance is a result from contains a cascaded Public Address Book by packing DIH relational database and Public Address Book via the DIH host system. In this case, the second tool, a cascaded Public Address Book, can be an original information box. Packing DIH relational database and Public Address Book are represented as tools. The DIH host system is represented as a tool server (col. 10, lines 5-17).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Ciarlante's teaching the host system tracks use of the application for billing and accounting purpose. The DIH host system uses three tools for tracking users. The first is registration tables in the DIH relational database, which store account Ids that represent each user in each instance and username/e-mail pairs that uniquely identify each user. A second is a cascaded Public Address Book, which stores user records for each person with instances on each hosting server. A third is the Public Address Book, which stores groups for each instance in order to allow any user

can access any instance for modifying or maintaining any information in a database from different sites via Internet system easily and efficiently.

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cam-Y Truong whose telephone number is (703-605-1169). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 8:00AM to 4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene, can be reached on (703-305-9790). The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703-872-9306).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-3900).

Cam-Y Truong

4/12/04


SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER